

(d) aligning said screen mesh with said fixed frame section around said viewing opening; and

(e) mating said first fastener strip on said side edges of said screen mesh with said second fastener strip to secure said screen mesh to said fixed frame section;

wherein said first and second fastener strips comprise hook and loop fasteners; and wherein said side edges of said screen mesh are located between said movable sash section and said fixed frame section.

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Remarks

Reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickerson et al. (U.S. Patent 4,409,758) in view of Pantilla (U.S. Patent 4,909,004) and Peterson III (U.S. Patent 4,068,428).

Claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickerson et al. in view of Pantilla, Peterson III and Jones et al. (U.S. Patent 5,365,707).

Applicant has amended claims 4 and 10 to include the additional feature of the present invention that the side edges of the screen mesh are located between the movable sash section and the fixed frame section. This feature further distinguishes the present invention from all of the cited references.

Thus, in applicant's invention, a screen mesh is secured to the fixed frame section of a window frame. A movable sash section includes an edge which overlaps the fixed frame section. The side

edges of the screen mesh are located between the movable sash section and the fixed frame section and are secured by hook and loop fasteners.

The Dickerson reference pertains specifically to a glazing system magnetically secured to the outside of a window frame for the purpose of improving thermal insulation for the window.

The Peterson patent pertains to a rigid transparent plastic insulation window for mounting on internal window frames. Hook and loop fasteners are used to attach the plastic window to the frame. The purpose of the transparent plastic window is to improve thermal insulation of the main window.

The Pantilla patent pertains to screens for garages or the like to provide a temporary enclosure. The screen is attached to a garage door frame with Velcro strips.

None of the foregoing patents cited by the Examiner disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention comprising a fixed window frame, movable sash section, and a screen mesh located between the movable sash section and the fixed window frame. The Dickerson and Peterson patents pertain to attachment of glazing or plastic windows to the frame of an existing window to provide additional thermal insulation. The Pantilla patent does not pertain to windows at all. Rather, it is concerned with enclosing a garage, for example, by attaching a screen to the garage door frame. There is no fixed window frame or movable sash section as required in the present invention.

None of the cited references describes or suggests applicant's

claimed invention, nor would combination of the teachings of such references lead to the presently claimed invention. The Dickerson and Peterson patents pertain to attaching glazing systems to the outer surface of a window frame to improve thermal insulation, and the Pantilla patent does not pertain to windows at all. The Jones patent pertains to the use of hooks, clips, angles, barbs and other structural elements to secure architectural elements (such as window units) to surrounding major structural elements.

An additional advantage of applicant's window screen system is that the hook and loop fastener strips around the side edges of the screen mesh, between the movable sash section and the fixed frame section, provide an additional seal between the sash section and the fixed frame section when the sash is in its closed position and compresses the fastener strips between the sash and the fixed frame section. This enhances the weather-tight performance of the closed window unit. Such feature is not shown or suggested by the cited prior art references.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the Section 103(a) rejections of all of applicant's claims are unsound and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration and favorable action are courteously solicited. A marked-up version of amended claims 4 and 10 are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claim 4 (Amended). A combination comprising:

- (a) a window frame comprising a fixed frame section and a movable sash section; wherein said movable sash section includes an edge which overlaps said fixed frame section; and wherein said fixed frame section defines an opening of given dimensions;
- (b) a screen mesh having side edges and having a size and shape approximating that of said opening, wherein said side edges of said screen mesh extend beyond said opening of said fixed frame section;
- (c) a first fastener strip secured to said side edges of said screen mesh;
- (d) a second fastener strip secured directly to said fixed frame section opposing said edge of said sash section in a manner such that said given dimensions of said opening in said fixed frame section are not reduced;

wherein said first and second fastener strips comprise hook and loop fasteners; wherein said side edges of said screen mesh are aligned with said fixed frame section around said opening; and wherein said first fastener strip is detachably secured to said second fastener strip, wherein said side edges of said screen mesh are located between said movable sash sections and said fixed frame section; whereby said screen mesh covers said opening without reducing said given dimensions of said opening in said fixed frame section.

Claim 10. (Amended) A method for attaching a screen mesh to a window of the type including a fixed frame section and a movable sash section which includes a portion which overlaps said fixed frame section without reducing the viewing opening through said fixed frame section, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a screen mesh having side edges and a shape

corresponding generally to said viewing opening, wherein said side edges extend slightly beyond said viewing opening;

- (b) securing a first fastener strip to said side edges of said screen mesh;
- (c) securing a second fastener strip directly to said fixed frame section around said viewing opening and opposing said sash section in a manner such that the dimensions of said viewing opening are not reduced;
- (d) aligning said screen mesh with said fixed frame section around said viewing opening; and
- (e) mating said first fastener strip on said side edges of said screen mesh with said second fastener strip to secure said screen mesh to said fixed frame section;

wherein said first and second fastener strips comprise hook and loop fasteners; and wherein said side edges of said screen mesh are located between said movable sash section and said fixed frame section.